ELECTION HANDBOOK

Statewide Primary Election June 3, 2008

Prepared by:

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San Bernardino County
REGISTRAR OF VOTERS
Needs Poll Workers

We always need poll workers to assist us on Election Day. This is a great way to serve your community and get involved with the democratic process while earning extra money. We recruit Clerks and Inspectors to staff the elections held throughout the year. **The next election is June 3, 2008.**

Inspectors' Duties
➢ Organize Set-Up of Polling Place
➢ Assign Clerks to Precincts, Duties and Breaks
➢ Resolve Voting Issues
➢ Return Ballots to a Pick-Up Location at the End of Election Night

Clerks' Duties
➢ Assist in Set-Up of Polling Place
➢ Greet the Voter
➢ Locate Voter on Roster
➢ Issue Ballot Cards
➢ Direct Voter to Voting Machines
➢ If Necessary, Demonstrate to the Voter How to Vote
➢ Retrieve the Ballot Card Once the Voter Has Completed the Voting Process

Training
For each election, all Poll Workers must attend a two-hour training class for which they will receive $15.00. Training classes are held throughout the County at various times and locations. All inspectors are required to attend the training class plus an inspector class. Inspectors will be paid $15.00 for the training class and $15.00 for the inspector class.

Pay
➢ Inspector - $135.00, Clerk - $100.00
➢ Bilingual Poll Workers will receive an additional $10.00.

Election Day Hours are 6:00 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. The polls are set up between 6:00 a.m. and 6:30 a.m. and are open at 7:00 a.m. The polls are closed at 8:00 p.m. and closing procedures may take up to one hour to complete.

If you can help, please contact Poll Worker Recruitment at (909) 387-8300 or (800) 881-VOTE.

I.   WHAT'S NEW

A. **Voting System Approval:**

- On August 3, 2007, Secretary of State Debra Bowen withdrew approval of voting systems throughout the State, which includes the Sequoia Voting System used by San Bernardino County. In the Secretary of State (SOS) denial report of the Sequoia Voting System, the SOS placed 38 conditions that must be met in order to have the machines recertified. Pursuant to Elections Code 19222, the Secretary of State is authorized to withdraw approval previously granted to any voting system or part of any voting system if the SOS determines that the voting system is defective.

- Even though the SOS report identified alleged deficiencies in the Sequoia electronic voting system, the Registrar of Voters (ROV) is confident that the current electronic voting system is accurate and secure. The SOS "Top to Bottom Review" was not conducted in a real-life election environment. The ROV office adheres to strict security procedures and free access is not provided to voting equipment. Our dedicated poll workers receive thorough training and are diligent in adhering to security procedures. Since 2004, touch screen voting has allowed this office to provide timely election results. In light of the SOS report, the ROV will continue to communicate with Sequoia Voting Systems, Inc. and the SOS with the goal of obtaining unconditional certification for future elections.

- One of the 38 conditions referenced in the SOS report/mandate permits the use of only one (1) touch screen voting unit per polling place, with the provision that the results are hand-counted. This unit will provide accessible balloting to voters with disabilities in compliance with the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA). The SOS has de-certified the use of electronic touch screen voting machines for all other uses during the upcoming elections.

- The Registrar of Voters will comply with the requirements as set forth in the SOS August 3, 2007 mandate by implementing the following plan:

  ♦ Provide one touch screen voting unit per polling location to provide accessible voting for voters with disabilities in compliance with the Help America Vote Act of 2002.

  ♦ Provide paper ballots at polling locations for voters.

  ♦ After the polls close, voted precinct ballots will be delivered to the Registrar of Voters Office for tabulation through the use of existing optical scanning equipment.

  ♦ Prepare New Poll Worker Training Program to include procedures for issuing, voting, and processing paper ballots.

  ♦ Promote Permanent Mail Ballot Voting as an alternative to voting at the polls.

B. **County Poll Worker Program:**

- The San Bernardino County Registrar of Voters Department conducts, at a minimum, three major elections in a two-year cycle, which occurs within the context of even and odd numbered calendar years. This office routinely recruits a total of 1,200 to 2,500 election workers for each election to meet the legal and operational requirements.

- It has become increasingly difficult in recent years to recruit and retain election poll workers to work the polls on Election Day. Although the poll worker stipend has been increased, recruiting civic-minded individuals to work a 15-hour day remains difficult. On February 28, 2006, the County Board of Supervisors approved the County Poll Worker Program in order to enhance the pool of available workers.

- The County Poll Worker program does not replace the current poll worker work force, but is intended to supplement the Registrar of Voters efforts to provide sufficient staff at more than 400 polling locations. County employees are a natural resource to serve in this capacity through their public service experience and their ability to communicate laws and regulations to the public.

- County employees who volunteer are not required to use their personal leave balances, but are to be paid their normal salary as if they were reporting for a regular work day.

C. **Early Voting:**

- Early voting for the June 3, 2008, Statewide Primary Election will be available at:

	LOCATION	DATES/TIMES
Registrar of Voters	777 E. Rialto Avenue San Bernardino, CA 92415	May 5 – June 3, 2008 Monday through Friday 8:00 am – 5:00 pm Saturday, May 24 and Saturday, May 31 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

D. **Working with the Media**

- Media releases are available on the ROV web site so that information can be more easily distributed within your organizations. We also send them to everyone on our media distribution list. If you are not currently on our list and would like to be added, please contact Kathy Jackson at (909) 387-2083.

- Election results will be posted on the ROV Web site at (http:www/sbcrov.com).

II.   WHO CAN I CALL?

News Releases	News releases are sent to members of the media and to City Clerk's offices from a mailing list we have compiled. If you would like to be added to our mailing list, contact Kathy Jackson at (909) 387-2083. News releases are also posted to our web site at www.sbcrov.com.
Web Site	Internet users can access the Registrar of Voters' home page at www.sbcrov.com. Select the Current Election tab, then the June 3, 2008 Statewide Primary Election link.

- **Interactive polling place locator** – voters can simply point and click on the interactive locator and enter their residence address. The locator provides the name and address of their polling place, a map, and a link to their sample ballot pamphlet.

- **Election results** – results will be posted on election night starting shortly after 8 p.m. The first results are from mail ballots only.

- **Links to other sites** – we provide a link to the Secretary of State's web site for statewide totals on our web site. From that site you can also link to many other elections offices throughout the state.

Media Interviews	Interviews may be scheduled with Kari Verjil, Registrar of Voters by calling Kathy Jackson at (909) 387-2083.
Election Mailings	

- County of San Bernardino Sample Ballot Pamphlet – is mailed to all registered voters.   It contains: voting page facsimiles; text, arguments, and rebuttals of local measures; candidates' statements for local nonpartisan races; voting instructions; location and accessibility of polling location; and an application for a mail ballot. It is printed in English and Spanish in accordance with Federal and State mandates.

- State of California Voter Information Guide – mailed by Secretary of State to registered voters (one to a household), and contains information on state measures only. Available in English, Spanish and several other languages. Also available on the internet at http://www.ss.ca.gov/elections/elections.htm

TDD	Telecommunication device for the deaf is available at: (909) 387-2788.
Bilingual	There are Spanish-speaking operators to assist voters at the Registrar of Voters office and at many of our polling places throughout the County.

III.   IMPORTANT DATES/STATISTICS

A. Key June 3, 2008 Dates

Begin Mailing Sample Ballots	4/24
First Day Mail Ballots Available	5/05
Early Voting	5/05 – 6/03
Last Day to register to vote	5/19
Last Day to request a Mail Ballot	5/27
ELECTION DAY	**6/03**
Official Canvass Period	6/04 – 7/01

B. Key Election Statistics on Ballot Content:

Number of Cities	1
Number of Elective Positions to be Voted on	79
Number of State Propositions	2
Number of Local Measures	4
Number of Qualified Political Parties	6

C. Voting History Information

ELECTION TITLE	ELECTION DATE	REG VOTERS	TOTAL VOTERS	% OF TURNOUT	MAIL BALLOT ISSUED	MAIL BALLOT VOTED	% OF AV VOTED	AV % OF TOT VOTED
Presidential Primary	2/5/08	723661	376614	52.04	224997	147520	65.57	39.17
Consolidated Election	11/6/07	583567	77315	13.25	168741	54352	32.21	70.29
General Election	11/7/06	751652	358417	47.8	209891	138167	65.82	38.55
Direct Primary Election	6/6/06	748385	185579	24.8	180834	86111	47.61	46.4
Consolidated Spec. Statewide	11/8/05	753616	323860	42.97	178721	119584	66.91	36.92
Presidential General	11/2/2004	737559	528387	71.64	186627	142781	76.51	27.02
Presidential Primary	3/2/04	649501	172267	26.52	124272	83499	67.19	48.47
Statewide Special Election	10/7/03	632948	387030	61.15	120068	95293	79.00	24.62
General Election	11/5/02	616402	294361	47.75	98715	74195	75.16	25.21
Direct Primary Election	3/5/02	621144	178396	28.7	70945	46084	65	23.7
Consolidated Election	11/6/01	640349	88651	13.84	46659	26959	57.78	30.41
Presidential General	11/7/00	691548	464402	67.15	115787	100830	87.08	21.71
Presidential Primary	3/7/00	636923	316916	49.7	85302	68642	80.47	21.66

D. **Registering To Vote**

- The last day to register to vote in the Statewide Primary Election is May 19, 2008.

- **New citizens** (naturalized after the close of registration) may register and vote a complete ballot at the ROV until May 27, 2008.

- **Registration statistics (effective 4/01/08):**

COUNTYWIDE	VOTER COUNT	PERM MAIL BALLOT
American Independent	20,147	4,908
Democrat	289,098	78,941
Green	2,835	616
Libertarian	3,507	843
Non-Partisan	128,397	29,648
Peace and Freedom	2,448	378
Republican	300,429	100,168
DISTRICT TOTAL	**749,861**	**215,502**

IV. SERVICES TO CANDIDATES/CAMPAIGNS

- All Candidates receive a Candidate Handbook with information on what is necessary to run for office, election deadlines, and the rules/regulations that apply. Candidates are invited to attend Campaign Service Seminars, which are held at various locations throughout the County to discuss all the important information relevant to running a campaign and let them know what services are available from the Registrar of Voters.

V. VOTING MATERIAL

A. **Sample Ballot Pamphlets**

- The Sample Ballot Pamphlet contain facsimiles of the voting pages, text/arguments/rebuttals of local measures, candidate statements for local non-partisan races, voting instructions, locations and accessibility of polling location, and applications for mail ballots. This information is available in English and Spanish.

B. **State Voter Information Guides**

- The State Voter Information Guide contains information on State measures and were printed and mailed by the Secretary of State (one to a household) to all voters registered to vote by the close of registration. There are two state propositions included in the State Voter Information Guide for this election. They are available in English and Spanish in San Bernardino County and in several other languages through the Secretary of State. State measure information is available on audiotapes

at the ROV office, Lighthouse for the Blind, and California Council for the Blind. The Secretary of State also sends them to libraries.

C. **State Propositions**

- State Propositions are consecutively numbered from year to year. There are two state propositions to be voted on.

YES	REQUIRED TO PASS:	Proposition 98 GOVERNMENT ACQUISITION, REGULATION OF PRIVATE PROPERTY INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.
NO	Majority	Bars state and local governments from condemning or damaging private property for private uses. Prohibits rent control and similar measures. Eliminates deference to government in property rights cases. Changes condemnation rules. *Fiscal Impact*: Increased costs to many governments due to the measure's restrictions. The net statewide fiscal effect, however, probably would not be significant.
YES	REQUIRED TO PASS:	Proposition 99 EMINENT DOMAIN. ACQUISITION OF OWNER-OCCUPIED RESIDENCE INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.
NO	Majority	Bars use of eminent domain to acquire an owner-occupied residence for conveyance to a private person or business entity. Creates exceptions for public works, public health and safety and crime prevention. *Fiscal Impact*: No significant fiscal impact on state or local governments.

D. **Local Measures**

- Local measures are given letters in alphabetical order, beginning with the next letter after the last measure in a previous election, in accordance with County policy.

- Following are all of the local ballot measures for San Bernardino County. Each Measure appears ONLY on the ballots in the district, city, or agency affected.

BONDS YES	REQUIRED TO PASS:	Measure N NEEDLES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOND MEASURE
BONDS NO	55%	"To improve the quality of education, shall the Needles Unified School District be authorized to modernize Vista Colorado Elementary School and Needles Middle School, provide students and the community with a gymnasium at Needles Middle School, construct and replace facilities at Needles High School, and make health and safety improvements to all schools by issuing $10,900,000 in bonds, within legal interest rates, with annual audits, a citizens' oversight committee and NO money for administrators' salaries?"
YES	REQUIRED TO PASS:	Measure O CITY OF NEEDLES MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL ACT
NO	2/3 Majority	Solely to provide funding to the Needles municipal hospital, shall the sales tax be increased by one-half percent, automatically expiring in 5 years; with funds deposited into a restricted account guaranteeing future administrations cannot use the money for other purposes; requiring annual financial audits; and <u>no</u> money for administrative overhead?
YES	REQUIRED TO PASS:	Measure P CITY OF VICTORVILLE
NO	Majority	"Shall the city charter for the City of Victorville be adopted?"

BONDS YES	REQUIRED TO PASS:	Measure Q
BONDS NO	2/3 Majority	BEAR VALLEY COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE DISTRICT

Measure Q
BEAR VALLEY COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE DISTRICT
BOND MEASURE

To improve and maintain local healthcare services, shall Bear Valley Community Healthcare District be authorized to retrofit to meet state mandated earthquake safety standards and remodel and refurbish including but not limited to the Emergency Department, Skilled Nursing Facility and Laboratory, by issuing $11,500,000 in bonds within legal interest rates. An independent citizen's oversight committee will be established to perform annual financial audits and insure no funds are used for salaries of District employees or administration.

E. Candidates' Names on the Ballot

- The placement of names on the ballot is determined by a random alphabetical drawing which was held by the Secretary of State and the Registrar of Voters on March 13, 2008.

SECRETARY OF STATE

RANDOM ALPHABETICAL DRAWING

1. H	7. P	13. X	19. R	25. G
2. E	8. J	14. B	20. Q	26. Z
3. A	9. U	15. C	21. D	
4. N	10. L	16. T	22. Y	
5. O	11. S	17. I	23. F	
6. V	12. M	18. K	24. W	

REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

RANDOM ALPHABETICAL DRAWING

1. M	7. O	13. A	19. X	25. V
2. J	8. R	14. E	20. I	26. Y
3. K	9. W	15. C	21. H	
4. D	10. N	16. Z	22. Q	
5. L	11. T	17. G	23. S	
6. F	12. B	18. U	24. P	

F. Partisan Offices To Appear On The Ballot

FEDERAL OFFICES	
OFFICE TITLE	INCUMBENT/PARTY
Representatives in Congress	
25th District	Howard P. Buck McKeon (R)
26th District	David Dreier (R)
41st District	Jerry Lewis (R)
42nd District	Gary Miller (R)
43rd District	Joe Baca (D)

STATE OFFICES	
OFFICE TITLE	INCUMBENT/PARTY
State Senate	
17TH Senate District	George Runner (R)
29th Senate District	Bob Margett (R)
31st Senate District	Robert Dutton (R)
State Assembly	
32nd District	Jean Fuller (R)
34th District	Bill Maze (R)
36th District	Sharon Runner (R)
59th District	Anthony Adams (R)
60th District	Robert Huff (R)
61st District	Nell Soto (D)
62nd District	Wilmer Carter (D)
63rd District	William Emmerson (R)
65th District	Paul Cook (R)
COUNTY CENTRAL COMMITTEES	
OFFICE TITLE	OFFICE TITLE
Democratic Assembly Districts	Republican Supervisorial Districts
32nd District (6)	1st District (8)
36th District (6)	2nd District (7)
62nd District (6)	3rd District (9)
63rd District (6)	4th District (5)

G. Non-Partisan Offices to Appear on the Ballot

COUNTY OFFICES	
OFFICE TITLE	INCUMBENT
Board of Supervisors	
1st District	Brad Mitzelfelt
3rd District	Dennis Hansberger
5th District	Josie Gonzales
Superior Court Judge Office #7, #10	
Riverside County Board of Education	
Governing Board Member, Area 5	
CITY OF LOMA LINDA	
OFFICE TITLE	
Councilmember (3)	
CITY OF COLTON RECALL	
OFFICE TITLE	
Mayor	

VI. VOTING BY MAIL

A. Who can vote mail ballot?

- Any registered voter may vote a mail ballot at the Registrar of Voters office beginning 29 days before the election and continuing until polls close at 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.

B. Military and overseas voters

- Ballots are mailed to requestors beginning 60 days prior to the election.

C. Requested mail ballots

- Voters may request by sending in a written letter or an application – either the ROV application on the back cover of the sample ballot pamphlet, one provided by a campaign, or one downloaded from the web site. All applications must be received no later than May 27th. Ballots are mailed beginning 29 days prior to the election.

D. Emergency mail ballot

- Voters may request a ballot in person (or through a designated representative) at the ROV office from May 28th through 8:00 p.m. on Election Day. These ballots cannot be mailed to the voter and the voter cannot mail them back to the ROV. They must be delivered to the ROV office or any polling place no later than 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.

E. Declared Mail ballot precincts (no polling place)

- These are precincts where no polling place was established because there were 250 or fewer voters. These precincts are sometimes referred to as NPP or "no polling place". Ballots are automatically mailed to these voters approximately three weeks prior to the election.

F. Permanent mail ballot

- These are voters who applied for this status and are automatically mailed a mail ballot approximately four weeks prior to the election. There are approximately 215,000 permanent mail ballot voters in this election.

G. Return of mail ballots

- ALL mail ballots must be received at the ROV office or polling place no later than 8:00 p.m. on Election Day in order to be counted – postmarks do not extend this deadline. All signatures are verified before counting.

VII. POLLS AND POLL WORKERS

A. Establishing Polling Places/Polls Publication

- The ROV tries to maintain consistency by using the same polling place for each election whenever possible; however there are times when polling places unexpectedly change. When this occurs, voters are notified by mail and notices are posted when a polling place is changed.

- A full listing of polling places will be published on or before Friday, May 23rd in The Press Enterprise and posted on the Registrar of Voters web site.

B. Recruiting And Training Poll Workers

- The number of poll workers required for this election is approximately 2,439. Letters are sent to past poll inspectors and workers asking if they are willing to serve again. In addition, we rely on media releases, outreach programs and newsletters. Inspectors are required to attend a training class, receive and return supplies and they earn $135 per election. Other poll workers earn $100 for Election Day plus $15 for attending a training class. We also actively recruit bilingual poll workers.

- Training is conducted by Registrar of Voters staff. A total of 92 classes will be conducted over a four-week period using 14 sites located throughout the county, with make-up classes as needed. Separate classes are conducted for clerks and inspectors, with weekend and evening classes in some areas.

C. Student Poll Worker Program

- The student poll worker program began in 1997 to address the shortage of poll workers and to provide voter outreach. It continues to serve the voters in San Bernardino County. These students perform the same duties as other workers and earn the same pay. They must be at least 16 years of age, with a grade-point average of 2.5 or above, must be citizens and must have approval of the school district. During the February 2008 Presidential Primary Election a total of 751 students volunteered to work at the polls. The County is currently working with 33 high schools to recruit student volunteers for the June Election. This is a wonderful outreach to prepare students for becoming voters when they are 18 years of age and it is a true service to the community.

D. Exit Polls

- Media or polling agencies conduct exit polls as the voters "exit" the polling places, asking voters how they voted on certain contests. Pollsters must conduct their interviews at least 25 feet from the entrance of the polls.

E. **Election Day/Night Assistance To Poll Workers**

- ROV'er/Troubleshooters - Specially trained workers that are dispatched countywide to respond to calls for assistance from poll workers and to conduct routine inspections of assigned polls.

VIII. ELECTION NIGHT BALLOT/SUPPLY RETRIEVAL

- **Post office pickup** - Mail ballots received by 8:00 p.m. on Election Day at the Redlands (main) post office will be picked up by ROV staff and processed during the canvass.

- **Sheriff's aviation** will transport ballot boxes from outlying areas via fixed wing aircraft (weather permitting) flying into Rialto Airport where they are transferred to Sheriff's helicopter and flown to the ROV. In case of bad weather (snow), ballots from Big Bear will be driven to ROV by Sheriff's vehicle.

IX. HOW BALLOTS ARE COUNTED

- The Registrar of Voters office is designated as Election Central and is the counting site for the entire county – it is open to the public to observe all testing procedures, counting procedures and to receive election results.

- Before any ballots may be counted, the system is subject to Logic and Accuracy Testing, witnessed by an Official Observer Panel. These same computer tests are run after the count is finished. Official Observers are solicited from the County Grand Jury, the League of Women Voters, media and the political parties, city clerks and civic organizations.

- Mail ballots are counted at the ROV site only.

- There are (8) 400C Optech ballot reading machines that are connected to a WinEds election data system at the Registrar of Voters office. Bulletin updates occur as soon as the information is available.

- Electronic Ballot Cartridges are logged in, inspected, prepared for computer counting, counted and stored. Damaged mail ballots that cannot be machine tabulated are set aside to be counted in the official canvass.

- **NOTE**: There is a difference between ballots cast and votes cast. A voter may under vote his/her ballot (i.e. skip any of the races/measures). Voters may over vote (i.e. vote for the YES and NO on a measure) which voids the vote cast on that one measure alone.

X.   OFFICIAL RESULTS AND CERTIFICATION OF THE ELECTION

A. **Semi-official Results**

- All results are available at www.sbcrov.com. The first Election Night Results (semi-official) should be available at approximately 8:30 pm. Results will also be given out by phone until (15) minutes after the last count. Election night results are cumulative only - not by precinct.

B. **Additional Ballot Counting**

- There are three categories of ballots which cannot be processed on Election Night:

- *Mail ballots* turned in at polls – some mail ballot voters wait until the last minute to make voting choices and then drop their ballots off at polling places on Election Day. We receive these ballots very late on election night. All of these ballots must be processed – this includes verifying voter's signatures, opening the envelopes and sorting the ballots into the appropriate precinct for tabulation.

- *Provisional votes* – are voted at the polls when a voter's registration is in question or when our records indicate the voter was already sent a mail ballot. The Help America Vote Act allows any voter to vote provisionally.

- *Write-in-ballots* – are those where the voter has chosen to write-in a candidate's name on the write-in portion of the ballot. These must be set aside and researched after Election Day to determine whether or not the write-in vote is for a qualified/ unqualified candidate and whether or not the voter over voted (i.e. voted for a candidate for an office listed on the ballot and also voted for a write-in candidate for that same office.) In this event, neither vote can be counted for that one office, although the rest of the ballot selections will be counted. When a write-in ballot is set aside on election night it means that none of the races/measures appearing on that ballot can be counted until the research is complete. Vote counts for write-in candidates do appear on election night bulletins. Counts for qualified write-in candidates will be available when the final results are certified.

C. **Official Results**

- The last *semi-official report* election night will contain pages of statistics showing registration/turnout numbers and percentage. Turnout represents the ballots cast.

- The law allows 28 days after the election to complete the ballot tally and official audit of the election, known as the Canvass. When the canvass is complete and all records have been reviewed, official results will be prepared and the election results (count) will be certified. Certified results are then sent to: Board of Supervisors and consolidating jurisdictions in order that they may "declare" results (winners). The Board of Supervisors will declare the results of the election for races and measures under the Board's jurisdiction. Cities declare their own results.

XI. COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. When is the last day I can register to vote for the election?

A. The 15th day before the election. We encourage early voter registration to help ensure receipt of election materials.

Q. Who can register to vote?

A. Any citizen can register to vote if he or she is 18 years old by Election Day, a resident of California, and is not imprisoned or on parole for the conviction of a felony.

Q. I have just moved. Do I need to re-register?

A. Yes. Your voter registration should always reflect your current residence address. Requests for changes to voter registration must be in writing.

Q. When do I have to re-register?

A. The only reason for re-registering is if you move, change your name (due to marriage or court order) or change your political party affiliation.

Q. I will be 18 years old before the day of the election, but after the close of registration. Can I register to vote?

A. Yes. As long as you are 18 by Election Day and you have registered on or before the 15th day prior to the election, you will be eligible to vote.

Q. Do I have to vote all of my ballot? I only know about some of the candidates and some of the measures.

A. You may vote on as many offices and/or as many measures as you choose. Voting only part of your ballot does not void your vote.

Q. I will be out of town on Election Day and prior to receiving my Sample Ballot. How can I get a mail ballot?

A. A written request can be mailed to the Registrar's office. The written request must contain your printed name, residence address, address where you want the ballot mailed, if different than your residence address and voter's signature.

Q. When are mail ballots available?

A. Ballots are available beginning 29 days before the election.

Q. What is the latest I can apply for a mail ballot?

A. All applications for mail ballots must be received at least seven (7) days prior to the election. Emergency voting starts on the 6th day prior to an election.

Q. How soon can I return my voted ballot?

A. As soon as possible; however, the ballot must be received by the Registrar's office before the close of the polls on Election Day.

Q. I have a mail ballot and am unable to get it mailed in time to reach your office. What can I do?

A. The mail ballot can be dropped off at any polling place location within San Bernardino County on Election Day or at the Registrar of Voters office on or before Election Day at 8:00 p.m. It cannot be dropped off at polling places in another county.

Q. How can I become a permanent mail ballot voter and do I qualify?

A. Any voter may apply for permanent vote by mail status and automatically receive a mail ballot by mail each time there is an election within their precinct. To apply, a voter must complete an application which can be obtained from the Registrar's office, on the Registrar of Voters web site, or check the permanent mail ballot block on the back cover of the Sample Ballot booklet.

XII. ELECTION DEFINITIONS

- **Canvass** – State law requires an official canvass (audit of the election). This entails numerous manual processes that verify the accuracy of the computer count, including a hand tally of ballots cast in 1% of the precincts. When this audit is complete, election results are certified to the various jurisdictions, which then declare the winners. The law allows 28 days to complete the official canvass process.

- **DRE** – Direct Recording Electronic voting system, the touchscreen AVC Edge® units used in San Bernardino County precincts beginning March 2, 2004.

- **NPP** - No polling place was assigned because there were fewer than 250 registered voters. These voters are "declared" vote by mail and ballots are automatically mailed approximately four weeks prior to the election.

- **Official Results** - Final election tabulation is issued after completion of the official canvass and the Registrar of Voters certifies the results.

- **Provisional Ballot** - Voted at polls when a voter's registration is in question. These ballots are verified and counted after Election Night.

- **Random Draw** – The placement of names on the ballot is determined by a random alphabetical drawing held by the Secretary of State.

- **Requested AV** - Voters who choose to vote by mail instead of going to the polls.

- **Unofficial Results/Semi-official** - All election results issued prior to completion of the official canvass. First reporting of unofficial results begins Election Night approximately 30-45 minutes after polls close.

- **VVPAT** – Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail, the VeriVote printer attached to the DRE voting system which allows voters to vote using touch screen technology with the added convenience of reviewing a paper record of their selections before they leave the polls.

- **Write-in Ballot** - When a voter chooses to manually write-in a vote for a candidate(s) not printed on the ballot. The entire ballot is set aside to be counted after the validity of the write-in vote is determined. Write-in ballots must be counted manually. No write-in counts will be available until the final add on count.